

REMARKS

Originally filed claims 1 and 2 have been amended. New claims 3-18 have been added.

Originally filed independent claim 1 has been amended to (i) broaden the claim by deleting the “wherein the inner wall and the outer wall define a collection cavity, a fluid collection and retrieval opening, and a rim” language; (ii) positively claim “the first contact member” and “the second contact member;” (iii) re-word the relationship between the second contact member, the second contact surface, and the outer surface; and (iv) correct a perceived lack of antecedent basis in “the specimen container.” No new matter has been added.


The preamble of originally filed independent claim 2 has been amended (i) to correct a perceived lack of antecedent basis in the applicable method steps, (ii) add transitional language “so that,” and (iii) broaden the claim by deleting “such as by moving the second body member in a first direction” and “removing the handle, such as by moving the second body member in a second, opposite direction.” No new matter has been added.

New method claims 3-5 add steps to amended independent method claim 2. New independent claim 6 and new dependent claims 7-15 recite a handle for use with a specimen container according to the present invention. New apparatus claims 16-18 depend directly or indirectly from amended independent claim 1. No new matter has been added.

Applicant respectfully requests that this Preliminary Amendment be entered,
and favorable examination of pending claims 1-18 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked-Up Versions of Claims 1 and 2

1. A urine collection device comprising:

a specimen container body having an inner wall and an outer wall[, wherein the inner wall and the outer wall define a collection cavity, a fluid collection and retrieval opening, and a rim]; and

a handle having a first body member and a second body member, the first body member having a first contact member which, in turn, has a first contact surface and an inner surface, and the second body member having a second contact member [having] which, in turn, has a second contact surface and an outer surface,

wherein the first contact surface of the first contact member engages the inner wall of the specimen container body, and the second contact surface of the second contact member engages the outer wall of the specimen container body, removably securing the handle to the specimen container body.

2. A method of collecting urine with a handle and a specimen container body, wherein the handle has a first body member and a second body member, the first body member has a first contact member which has a first contact surface and an inner surface, the second body member has a second contact member which has a second contact surface and an outer surface, and the specimen container body has an inner wall and an outer wall, defines a collection cavity, and forms a rim, comprising the steps of:

a) positioning the first contact member of the first body member adjacent to the rim formed by the specimen container body, with the first contact member protruding into the collection cavity and the first contact surface facing the inner wall of the specimen container body;

b) positioning the second contact member of the second body member adjacent to the rim formed by the specimen container body, with the second contact surface of the second contact member facing the outer wall of the specimen container body; and

c) securing the handle to the rim of the specimen container body[, such as by moving the second body member in a first direction until] so that the first contact surface of the first contact member engages the inner wall of the specimen container body, and the second contact surface of the second contact member engages the outer wall of the specimen container body[; and

d) removing the handle, such as by moving the second body member in a second, opposite direction].